

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING JOHN L. JERMAIN

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2005

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize John L. Jermain of Conception Junction, Missouri. John celebrated his 80th birthday on July 12, 2005 and it is my privilege to offer him my warmest regards on achieving this important milestone.

In addition to being a fine grandfather, Mr. Jermain is a respected farmer and dedicated community member in Conception Junction. He fought for the United States of America with honor in Korea, and I am grateful for Mr. Jermain's patriotism and service to our nation.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing John L. Jermain. It is an honor to represent him in the United States Congress, and I wish him all the best for many more birthdays in the future.

AUGUSTINE GALLEGOS: THE SAN DIEGO CHICANO FEDERATION'S LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2005

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, Augustine "Augie" Gallegos has provided decades of leadership to our community through his distinguished career in higher education.

Named chancellor of the San Diego Community College District in 1990, Augie exemplified the values of lifelong learning. A leading proponent of improving diversity in education and the workplace, Augie collaborated with elementary and secondary schools, universities and employers to broaden access for all individuals.

In 2002, Augie led the \$685 million capital improvement campaign for the San Diego Community College District. As the bond campaign leader and chief fundraiser, Augie met with community groups, business and community leaders, giving more than 50 presentations during a three-month period. During that time, he raised a vast majority of the \$600,000 needed for the "Yes on Proposition S" public awareness campaign and endorsements from both Democrat and Republican members of Congress, the State Legislature, San Diego City Council and the San Diego Taxpayers Association. Today, the San Diego Community College District has experienced many improvements as a result of Augie's efforts.

Augie continues to initiate efforts within the Community College District and to assist other community colleges to expand international programs, exchanges and expanding curriculums to improve understanding and appreciation of diverse cultures throughout the world.

He has served as the chairman of the board of directors for the International Community Foundation, a San Diego-based organization committed to fostering lasting philanthropy to benefit international communities throughout the Americas and Asia in the areas of education, community development, health, the environment and cultural endeavors. The organization recently granted awards to support projects in Mexico, China, India, El Salvador, Ecuador and Canada.

Augie has an extensive background in public service and has served on the board of directors for the San Diego Dialogue (a public policy organization based at the University of California, San Diego), the International Community Foundation, United Way of San Diego County and the Commission on Children, Youth and Families.

He has clearly demonstrated dedicated, selfless and meaningful work that has made a positive difference in the lives of thousands of people in our community and throughout the world.

Congratulations, Augie, on this Award for Lifetime Achievement!

THE CUBAN GOVERNMENT'S SUCCESSFUL METHODS OF RESPONDING TO HURRICANES

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2005

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, Everyone acknowledges that the United States has lessons to learn from the disgraceful Federal and local response to Hurricane Katrina. Even the President has ordered a review of the government response to the hurricane and declared that necessary changes must be made to be better prepared for the future. Perhaps we could learn lessons from an island just 90 miles south of Florida that is frequently buffeted by hurricanes. Yesterday CNN aired the following story about the Cuban Government's successful methods of responding to hurricanes:

CNN TRANSCRIPT: HURRICANE RITA, LESSONS FROM CUBA?

SEPT. 20, 2005.—Lloyd: You hear a lot about evacuations as a hurricane nears; yesterday, the mayor of Galveston, Texas—where Rita could be headed—declared a state of emergency in that city. She also said mandatory evacuations will start today. In Cuba, which sits on the northern edge of the Caribbean Sea, the government usually has strict guidelines in place for hurricanes. Lucia Newman went to the island nation to bring us this story about Cuba's secrets for saving lives.

Lucia Newman, CNN reporter: Cuba is the largest and most populated island in the Caribbean yet it consistently experiences the lowest death tolls during hurricane season. According to United Nations, it's not because Cubans are lucky but because they're prepared.

"We were prepared for a big one, and big it was," says this man of Hurricane Ivan. He and nearly 2 million others were evacuated from low lying areas and fragile buildings ahead of the hurricane. Nobody was killed.

Preparations for a hurricane start well in advance. The same system that gives the communist state total political and economic control is used efficiently to mobilize the nation to face natural disasters.

State run television and the civil defense authority bombard the population with information and instructions about what measures to take. On every block, there's a person assigned to take a census on who is being evacuated to which shelter, with special attention paid to the elderly and pregnant women.

"We have a list, and tell each person where they have to go and there, they're taken care of," says Llanee Perez.

In the fishing village of La Coloma, which is vulnerable to hurricane flooding, a massive evacuation was mandatory. The police and army were responsible for guaranteeing there was no looting. Electricity is cut ahead of the hurricane to prevent electrocutions.

After Hurricane Ivan, the seaside village of Las Canas looked like a ghost town. Its residents evacuated days earlier. But while many lost much of their belongings, at least no one had to cry over the loss of a loved one. Lucia Newman, CNN, Havana.

RECOGNIZING JOHN STACY

HON. LYNN A. WESTMORELAND

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2005

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of a great American, John Stacy. It is my privilege to bring before the House of Representatives the occasion of his 60th birthday.

John Stacy was born on October 5, 1945 in Coleman, KY to his proud parents, John and Bertha Stacy. After he completed his education, he began serving his country, entering the United States Marine Corps in June of 1965. After completing the rigors of boot camp, he went on to serve in a number of capacities, including the area of Motor Pool Transport, as a colonel's personal driver, then as a career planner and a member of the Hostage Negotiations Team. Eventually he became an instructor for the Officer Advanced Course for Military Police.

He also served overseas on a number of occasions between 1966 and 1981, including a tour in Vietnam, two tours of duty in Okinawa, and time at Subic Bay in the Philippines.

During this time, John was continuing to rise through the ranks, achieving the rank of gunnery sergeant. But others saw the distinction he brought to his duties, and he was recognized as the Marine Corps Outstanding Military Citizen for Georgia in 1984.

In 1985, John retired from the Marines at his gunnery sergeant rank after 20 years of service to our Nation and to our freedoms.

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